

# AJLS Newsletter

## Association for Japanese Literary Studies

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Edited by Eiji Sekine

AJLS • Purdue University • 640 Oval Drive • W. Lafayette • IN 47907-2039 • USA  
765.496.2258 (Tel) • 765.496.1700 (FAX) • esekine@purdue.edu (E-mail)  
<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/fll/AJLS/> (website)

### Twentieth Annual Meeting Program

**The Poetics of Aging:  
Confronting, Resisting and Trans-  
cending Mortality in the Japanese  
Narrative Arts**  
November 4 - 6, 2011  
Tufts University  
**Featuring keynote address by  
Nobel Laureate Oe Kenzaburo**

#### Sponsors:

The North East Asia Council, AAS  
Harvard University Reischauer Center  
Center for the Humanities and  
The Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences,  
Tufts University

All papers and panels will be presented in the Winthrop Street Function Hall, 51 Winthrop Street.

Pre-registration is required. Please remember that registration ends October 14th.

For registration, lodging, travel advice, as well as program updates, please visit our conference website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/2011ajls/>

For additional information or questions, please e-mail: [susan.napier@tufts.edu](mailto:susan.napier@tufts.edu).

Note: This schedule is subject to change and updates are anticipated.

#### Friday, November 4

**3:00-5:00 Registration**

**5:00-6:00 Reception**  
“Geriatric Butoh: Ohno Kazuo Dancing unto Death,” Video presentation by **John Solt**, Independent Scholar

**6:00-7:00 Keynote Speech**  
**Ōe Kenzaburō**, Nobel Laureate

**7:30-9:00 Banquet**

#### Saturday, November 5

**9:00-10:00 Registration**

**10:00-12:00 Discussion One: Age, Gender, Genre**, Moderated by **Hosea Hirata** (Tufts University)

**Sharalynn Orbaugh** (University of British Columbia), “Menopausal Machines and Cyber Crones”

**Naoko Sugiyama** (Japan Women’s University), “Looking Old, Feeling Young: Old Women in Shōjo Manga”

**Sayumi Takahashi Harb** (Connecticut College), “Mutations of Gendered Aging in Ohara Mariko’s Science Fiction”

**Amanda Seaman** (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), “Female Sexuality in Uchida Shungiku’s Manga”

**Takako Mano** (Josai International University), “The Yamamba Image in Contemporary Poetry, Yoshihara Sachiko and Others”

**Yoko Kurata** (Sugino Fashion College), “Enchi Fumiko, Colors and Body Images”

#### **12:00-1:30 Lunch**

**2:00-4:00 Discussion Two: Death**, Moderated by **Charles Inouye** (Tufts University)

**Mack Horton** (University of California, Berkeley), “The Rhetoric of Old Age, Death, and Discipleship”

**Scott Miller** (Brigham Young University), “Young Writers Anticipate Death: Shiga and Kajii in Convalescence”

**Saeko Kimura** (Tsuda College), “Placating the Dead: Folk Rituals and Recurring Life”

**Evelyn Huang** (Ohio State University), “Obasuteyama, Care or Abandonment?”

**Ellen Tilton-Cantrell** (Yale University), “Itō Hiromi on Eldercare and Suffering”

**Kirsten Cather** (University of Texas, Austin), “Etō Jun and Itami Jūzō, Speaking for and to the Dead”

#### **4:00-4:15 Refreshments**

**4:15-6:15 Discussion Three: Men in their Final Years**, Moderated by **Susan Napier** (Tufts University)

**Dennis Washburn** (Dartmouth College), “Grief and Aging in the Maboroshi Chapter of *The Tale of Genji*”

**Dylan McGee** (Nagoya University), “Gerontic Fantasies in Ukiyozōshi”

**Michael Brownstein** (Notre Dame University), “Weak Old Men, Strong Old

Women in Chikamatsu”

**Michael Cronin** (The College of William and Mary), “Decline and Regeneration in Yamasaki Toyoko’s *Noren*”

**Eiji Sekine** (Purdue University), “Animism and Lyricism in the late work of Yasuoka Shōtarō”

**Sumie Jones** (Indiana University), “Tsutsui Yasutaka’s *Teki*: An SF Approach to Senescence”

**William Bridges** (Princeton University), “Yamada Eimi’s Style Lately: Black Masculinity in *Payday*”

Attendees are then free to make dinner arrangements.

### **Sunday, November 6**

#### **9:00-10:00 Coffee**

**10:00-12:00 Discussion Four: Women in their Final Years**, Moderated by **Karen Thornber** (Harvard University)

**Shigemi Nakagawa** (Ritsumeikan University), “Ageism and Sexuality”

**Chiara Ghidini** (University of Napoli), “Orikuchi Shinobu on Elderly Women”  
**Barbara Hartley** (The University of Tasmania), “Enchi Fumiko, Women Blighted by Age”

**Paola Scrolavezza** (University of Bologna), “Kirino Natsuo, The Grotesque Double Life of a Business Woman”

**Maryellen Mori** (Independent Scholar), “New Whines in Old Skins: The Recluse in Contemporary Japanese Literature”

**Hiromi Tsuchiya Dollase** (Vassar College), “Tanabe Seiko, Old Women Enjoying Life”

**Tomoko Aoyama** (The University of Queensland), “Sano Yōko and Old



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